25th March 1963]

(*b*) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) No.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Basic Schools

* 65 *Q.*—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of basic schools in this State as on 1st August 1962;

(*b*) the number of teachers employed in these institutions; and

(*a*) the number of basic schools in this State as on 1st August 1962?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) 4,360.

(*b*) 24,147 (as on 31st March 1962).

(*c*) 7,37,985 (as on 31st March 1962).

Details as on 1st August 1962 are not available.

SRI M. RAJAH IYER : Sir, are facilities for retraining non-basic teachers continued so that they may serve in basic schools, as there are a number of teachers who are not basic trained and technically disqualified to handle classes in basic schools? May I know whether the facilities for retraining them are there so that they may be eligible for employment in basic schools?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The facilities are there. But the facilities are to be availed of, when there is need for them.

திரு. க. அன்பழகன் : தலைவர் அவர்களே, ஆதாரப் பள்ளிகள் இப்போது நடத்தப்பட்டு வருகிற முறைப்படி மேலும் நடத்தப்படுவதாக இருக்கிறதா? அல்லது அதைப்பற்றித் தீர்மானிக்க வேண்டிய நிலைமையில் அரசாங்கம் இருக்கிறதா?

கனம் திரு. எம். பக்தவத்சலம் : அதைப்பற்றி நன்றாக ஆராய்ந்து தீர்மானிக்கவேண்டியதாய் இருக்கிறது.

State Transport Buses

* 66 *Q.*—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any time-limit has been prescribed for running of City Transport buses from terminus to terminus; and

(*b*) if so, whether the need to stop sufficiently at stoppage is taken into account in fixing such time-limit?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) Yes, Sir.

[25th March 1963

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Sir, are the Government aware that passengers find it very difficult just to take their seats, as the conductors blow their whistles even before they sit?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, what we call the 'running time' is fixed by an actual survey in which test routes are taken by the vehicles and the time taken for running from one place to another together with the requisite stops at the stopping places, is also taken into account. It is not unlikely that on some occasions some conductors may be a little hasty in blowing their whistles. But as a general rule, the Government have taken all these into consideration in fixing the running time.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Sir, are periodical instructions issued to conductors that they should not give this trouble to passengers? Is there any Welfare Officer to look into complaints?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Yes. There is the Public Relations Officer who looks into all these complaints. If hon. Members would write to the Public Relations Officer, their complaints will be enquired into. But may I make one point on this occasion? We receive a number of complaints from passengers. Without their names and addresses, it is very difficult to verify the complaints. Therefore, if people want to make any complaints against the Government Transport, they can write to the Public Relations Officer, giving their names and addresses.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Sir, is any action taken against the conductors who just take the vehicles to the stand before the appointed time?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : If it is proved, they will not only be punished, but they will also lose their jobs.

3–10 p.m. * 67 Q.—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether a box for 'used tickets' is provided in each City Transport bus; and

(b) whether this box for 'used tickets' is used by passengers?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (a) Boxes for 'used tickets' are provided in some of the State Transport buses.

(b) These boxes are not generally used by the passengers.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Are these boxes kept there to see that tickets are not thrown in the buses, or are they kept for any other particular purpose?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : These boxes are provided for passengers and the general public to throw their used tickets into them. But, as I said, they like to throw them outside rather than into the boxes.